Tatsuya HIDANO et al. Appl. No. 10/594,998 December 29, 2010

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application and entry of this Amendment are solicited.

In the current Action, claim 2 is objected to as being dependent from a rejected base claim and claim 12 is indicated to be allowed; see items 4-5 of the Action. With this indication in mind, the claims have been amended in order to accept the examiner's indication of allowable and allowed subject matter, namely claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 13 have been canceled (claims 6, 7 and 9-11 were previously canceled), claim 2 has been combined with claim 1 and, in addition, a minor clerical error changing "tower" to "column" has been made in amended claim 2. The subject matter of claim 1 has also been incorporated into claim 12. Accordingly, these amendments do not include added subject matter and are believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Should this not be the case or the examiner requires further information, please contact the undersigned.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 14-1140

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

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